

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2011

In attendance at the meeting: Commission Members: John P. Chiota, Esq., Chairman; William S. Holden, Vice Chairman; Gail J. Hanna, Secretary; James Cordone, Esq.; Paul Timpanelli; and Russell Friedson (arrived 7:45PM).

Non-commission members in attendance: Attorney Robert Maslen and Aaron Leo, PATCH (arrived 7:55PM).

Meeting Called to Order 7:35PM

Approval of the Minutes

MOTION made by G. Hanna to approve the minutes of December 22, 2010, seconded by P. Timpanelli.

The commission members had reviewed the first draft of the Charter revision which included CHAPTER I through CHAPTER IX previously submitted by the commission clerk at the December 22, 2010 meeting.

The commission members submitted the following new language to be incorporated in the first draft of the Charter:

J. Chiota submitted new language to be incorporated in CHAPTER I. Incorporation, General Powers and Organization.

W. Holden submitted language to be incorporated in CHAPTER VII. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, Section 3. Board of Education, *Composition and election*; and also CHAPTER VIII. ELECTORAL PROCESS, Section 3. Biennial town elections.

The commission members further discussed the issue concerning changing from two (2)-year terms to four (4)-year terms for The First Selectman, the Town Treasurer and also the Town Clerk. J. Cordone and P. Timpanelli both agreed a four (4)-year term should apply "across the board". R. Friedson questioned the benefits of a four (4)-year term as opposed to the existing two (2)-year term. The commission members all agreed this needs to be resolved and possibly rewrite the language submitted by W. Holden.

J. Chiota provided Atty. Maslen with language from R. Friedson regarding the budget referendum for his review. The commission members could not agree on an exact "threshold number" and further research and discussion is needed. At the request of J. Chiota, Atty. Maslen will prepare more appropriate language and threshold formula.

J. Cordone excused himself from the meeting at 8:35PM.

P. Timpanelli discussed with the commission members the issue of the bonded debt referendum. They were all in agreement of the bonding debt of \$15 million.

W. Holden referred to the language he prepared for the Board of Education. Making reference to 9-167a of the general statutes and as with the land use boards, the election of three (3) for each year terms.

The commission will start with CHAPTER II of the Charter at the next meeting scheduled for January 26, 2011.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50PM

Respectfully submitted:

Marilou Mangiamele, Clerk